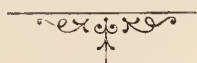


→≡· Annual Report ·≡→

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health for the Cottingham Urban District,
for the year 1913.



*To the Chairman and Members of the
Cottingham Urban District Council.*

Gentlemen,

During the year 1913, the number of deaths registered in your district was 61, as against 48 in 1912, and 42 in 1911.

The following were the ages at which the deaths took place :—

Under one year	...	...	...	...	17	against 6 in 1912.
One year and under five	...	...	...	2	„	3 „
Five years and under fifteen	...	...	...	1	„	2 „
Fifteen years and under twenty-five	...	...	...	1	„	3 „
Twenty-five years and under sixty-five	...	...	...	17	„	11 „
Over sixty-five years	...	...	...	23	„	23 „
				—		—
				61		48
				—		—

This shews that if the estimated population is 4,711, the death rate is 12·9.

I find on examination of the register that no less than five deaths do not belong to this district, viz.: two infants' bodies were found in ditches; one infant aged five months, belonged to Hull; one infant, aged sixteen months, belonged to Hessle; one adult female, aged eighty, belonged to Beverley. This reduces your deaths to 56, which will make the death rate 11·9.

On examining the register I find that Pneumonia caused seven deaths, Cancer, seven, Heart disease, eight, Kidney diseases, five, and Phthisis, two. You will see the mortality amongst the infants has considerably increased. There were nine infants died ranging from thirteen hours to ten days, and eight from one month to nine months—this is the uncorrected table. The corrected table shews only thirteen deaths for your district.

As mentioned above, two bodies were found, and two infants belonged to other districts.

None of the infantile deaths can be put down to epidemic diarrhoea, as we have not been visited with that disease. None of the infants died from malnutrition, caused by injudicious feeding.

Amongst the adults six died over eighty years of age, and nine over seventy years of age.

During the year there have been registered 124 births—fifty-nine boys and sixty-five girls. This makes the births sixty-eight in excess of the deaths. The number of births registered in 1912 was 96, and 107 in 1911.

During the year there were twelve cases which came under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act, viz.:—

Diphtheria	...	...	...	3
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	2
Erysipelas	...	...	...	7
				—
				12
				—

There were twelve cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified, of which two have died. Two children were sent to a Home for Phthisis, and are doing well—I may say, are quite well; seven are progressing favourably at their own homes; one is a severe case requiring very great care and attention.

A.—NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE DISTRICT.

1. On the south and west sides of the village the soil has a substratum of gravel and sand. On the north and east it is clay with rich light black soil, most fertile and moist.

2. The village may be termed residential, there being a number of good houses of all sizes, with good drainage and plenty of excellent water. The village is in close proximity to the city of Hull, and has a very good train service. The inducements are great to those that like a country life. Many of the inhabitants are employed in market gardening, these people producing almost every kind of vegetable, fruit, and flower; large quantities, of late, having been sent to the London and Leeds markets.

The amount of Poor-law relief is small for such a large parish; in 1911 the population was 4,648, and the acreage, 8,690.

There is no Hospital other than the Union Infirmary situate within four miles.

B.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.—This is very good, the greater part of the village being supplied by the City of Kingston upon Hull Waterworks, situate at Cottingham. Some few pumps remain, and these produce most excellent water, many of them running for months together when the springs are high; the bores will be from sixty-five to seventy-five feet.

There has been no case of lead poisoning from water drinking.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.—There is a beck of surface water running through the village. The water does get polluted, but it is not used for drinking purposes, and it is often dry during the hot months.

SCAVENGING.—This is done by the public scavenger once a week. The refuse is taken and deposited on the land outside the village, and ploughed in as soon as possible.

The number of movable ash-bins is about twelve, these are not supplied by the Council; privies, 840.

PREMISES WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.—Slaughter-houses, ten, all registered, are well supplied with water, and are suitable for the purpose. Dress-makers, four, in a sanitary condition, air-space sufficient, no

overcrowding. Tailors, three, all are in a sanitary condition, no overcrowding, and air-space sufficient. Other businesses which come under the Factory and Workshops Act, viz.:—Carpenters, six in number, are well lighted and ventilated, and are adapted for their purpose. Blacksmiths, five in number, are all suitable for their purpose. Plumbers' shops, three; Hairdressers' shops, two; Butchers' shops, four; Pork Butchers' shops, three; Fried Fish shops, three; Fish shop (wet), one; Drapers' shops, three; Grocers' shops, fourteen; Shoemakers' shops, three; all suitable for their respective purposes.

SCHOOLS.—The public Elementary School, which has been greatly enlarged, is under the control of the East Riding County Council, is in a sanitary condition, well ventilated and warmed, and well supplied with water from the public service. The health of the children is well looked after by the teachers. From time to time the School Medical Officer to the Educational Department of the County Council examines the children, and all cases for treatment are referred to the Medical Officer of Health.

The number of children on the school register is 630, viz.:—Boys, 244, girls, 216, infants, 170. The infants' school was closed from 21st February to 24th March, owing to measles.

FOOD.—(a) Milk Supply.—The milk, taking it on the whole, is of a good quality, and sufficient in quantity. When any analysis is required, this is performed by the East Riding County Council.

The same applies to:—

(b) Other Foods.

(c) Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

The cowsheds, fifty-nine, all registered, are mostly in a good state of repair, but there are several that require drastic alterations, and these are in the hands of our Inspector of Nuisances, who acts very justly and efficiently, and without any favouritism.

There have been no convictions here for adulterated milk during this year.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1909, HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS, 1910.

(ARTICLE 5.)

Number of dwelling houses inspected under and for the
purposes of Section 17 of the Act of 1909 ... 201

Number of dwelling houses found unfit for habitation ...	none
Number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to making Closing Orders ...	none
Number of Closing Orders made ...	none
Number of dwelling houses in which the defects were remedied without the making of Closing Orders ...	92
Number of dwelling houses which, after making of Closing Orders, were put into a fit state for human habitation	none
Number of dwelling houses which, after the making of Closing Orders were demolished ...	5

No new houses have been built for the working classes
this year.

SANITARY WORK CARRIED OUT DURING 1913.

Dwelling houses inspected ...	263
„ „ disinfected or cleansed ...	8
„ „ condemned as unfit for habitation ...	none
„ „ found overcrowded ...	2
„ house yards paved ...	69
„ „ damp-proof courses inserted ...	33
New houses built ...	14
Number of nuisances found and abated ...	359
Defective privies and ashpits ...	69
Privies converted to W.C.'s ...	2
„ „ to pail closets ...	4
Ashpits covered ...	2
Defective house drains ...	19
Drains trapped or disconnected ...	16
New drains laid ...	16
Drains better ventilated ...	5
Cesspools removed ...	1
Nuisances from animals abated ...	3
Other nuisances abated ...	154
Water supplies—	
Houses newly supplied from water mains ...	25
New wells made ...	2

Wells closed, water unsafe	...	...	...	...	none
Samples of water sent for analysis	...	...	...	...	none
Water certificates granted for new houses	...	...	...	...	2
Dairies and Cowsheds—					
Number on the Register	...	...	...	...	59
Visits to Cowsheds and Dairies	...	...	...	...	226
Defects found and remedied	...	...	...	...	10
Slaughter Houses—					
Number on the Register	...	...	...	...	10
Visits to	...	...	...	...	220
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	none

I mentioned in my last report that I had received a communication, signed by a number of cowkeepers, complaining of a nuisance caused by a fermenting mass of many thousands of tons of ashes and excrement from privies. On January 26th, 1913, I, in conjunction with the Medical Officer of Health to the East Riding, visited this depôt of filth. We suggested that the nuisance be abated and summonses issued against the persons responsible. These instructions were acted upon.

On July 10th, 1913, I attended with our Sanitary Inspector, before the Magistrates, and the contractors, Messrs. Foster Bros., agreed to remove the heap in sixty days. It is now February, 1914, and with the exception of, say, a few hundred loads, the heap is still in existence.

It is not causing any offensive smell, for it is mostly hard-baked, and covered with grass and weeds. When a heavy rain comes, the water runs off this heap into the adjoining ditches, and into the Barmston Drain, which runs through a part of Kingston upon Hull, and in which people are in the habit of bathing in the warm weather.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The greater part of the village is well drained, the present system has been down some thirty-eight years. As the village has grown, our Council, very wisely, have considered that the sewer should be reconstructed, and are proposing to make a three-foot sewer with nine-inch walls, to replace the old one which has four-and-a-half-inch walls. This will join the Kingston upon Hull sewer in an uniform manner. There can be no doubt that

this will be the greatest improvement for the benefit of the inhabitants that has taken place for years.

There are some parts which, on account of the low level, it is impossible to drain into the existing main drain without incurring great expense. This tract of land has some eighteen cottages, each having about half-an-acre of garden land. The cottages have, of late, been renovated, and a privy built for each, away from the cottage. There is no sewerage from these cottages. Any washing-up water is thrown on the land. Very little illness occurs in this locality.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION OF THE DISTRICT.

The Local Authority have entered into an agreement with the Corporation of the City of Kingston upon Hull to take any cases of infectious diseases that may occur in this district, on the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health.

I am pleased to have to inform you that there have not occurred any cases in which removal was considered necessary for the last twelve years.

There were three cases of Diphtheria during the year; a swab was taken from each patient, and sent to the Clinical Research Association in London for verification.

There were twelve cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified; it was considered only necessary to send four expectorations for bacteriological examination.

Two of the cases of incipient Phthisis were sent to the Home at Skeffling, where they received the tuberculin treatment, lived an open-air life, and were fed on the very best of nourishing food, and I can say with very satisfactory results. Both children are considered to be in good health, and have returned to their homes.

The Midwives Act, 1902, is not in vogue here, nor is the Notification of Births Act.

In Dunswell, where the drainage is bad, and the water, which is obtained from pumps, is good, there were three deaths, one of a female, aged sixty-two, of Pneumonia, a male, aged seventy-seven, Paralysis and Heart Disease, and one infant, aged sixteen months, which came on a visit and was ill when it arrived.

The inhabitants are mostly of the agricultural class; there are many large cowkeepers and farmers.

The cowsheds are for the most part very good and up-to-date. The milk mostly goes to supply the inhabitants of the city of Hull.

There is an Elementary School under the control of the East Riding County Council, the accommodation being for forty-three scholars. It is clean and well ventilated, is under the management of a schoolmaster who takes great interest in his work, and also in the care of the children. If at any time he sees anything he considers of an infectious nature, he immediately reports the same to the Medical Officer of Health.

There is a carpenter's shop, with a smithy adjoining; the two places are suitable for their purpose.

In the near future great improvements will take place here, the Corporation of the City of Kingston upon Hull having purchased a large tract of land for the purpose of erecting water-works, and water will be supplied from the main to the village.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

Geo. H. Watson,

M.O.H.

COTTINGHAM,

February 14th, 1914.